MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): No. Steps are being taken to acquire the required lands.

Action on motion re grant of full right over teak trees on private lands.

202. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any steps to give effect to the motion passed in the Legislative Council in regard to the surrender, to the landholders, of the entire right over teak trees standing on private holdings?

MR. T. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): A committee was appointed by the Government to go into the question and submit a report. The report of the committee has been received and is under the consideration of the Government.

Permits for motor vehicles.

203. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing:

(*a*) the number of applications for permits for motor vehicles received in the office of the Commissioner of Police during the 12 months ending the 31st Mithunam 1105;

(*b*) the number of permits issued within one month from the date of application; and

(*c*) the number of applications for permits pending for more than one month on the 31st Mithunam 1105?

(2) Are the Government aware:

(*a*) that there is delay in obtaining permits for motor vehicles, and

(*b*) if so, the steps they have taken in the matter?

MR. T. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*):

(1) (*a*) 1362.

(*b*) 858.

(*c*) 118.

(2) (*a*) and (*b*) The Commissioner brought to the notice of the Government the rush of applications for permits and the inability of the staff to cope with the work. Five additional clerks were therefore sanctioned temporarily from the 24th Edavam 1105 till the close of the year, and provision has been made in the Budget for 1106 for the continuance of two out of the above five clerks. The Commissioner says that the entertainment of these clerks has minimised the delay in the matter of issuing permits.

Latin Christians in the Education Department.

204. **MR. D. FRANCIS** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of new appointments made in the Education Department during the period from 1100 to 1105; and

(*b*) the number of Latin Christians appointed in the Department within that period and their names?

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MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): The Government do not propose to collect the information as they think that the time and labour involved in its collection will be out of proportion to its possible utility.

Population of Latin Christians in the State.

205. **MR. D. FRANCIS** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state the total number of Latin Christians in the State?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag Chief Secretary to Government*): The total number of Latin Christians *i. e.*, of Roman Catholics following the Latin rite, in the State according to the last Census is 327,979.

MR. D. FRANCIS (*Nominated*): May I know from the member whether Government are aware that the number of appointments given to the Latin Christians is very poor when compared with their population?

PRESIDENT: That has nothing to do with the question. The question has been fully answered.

Bridge across the Periyar river at the 147th mile of the M. C. road.

206. **MR. ITTOOP ITTEECHAN** (*Kunnatnad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have considered the question of putting up a bridge across the Periyar river at the 147th mile of the M. C. road; and

(*b*) if not, the reason for the same?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) Yes. But the work can be taken up only after other more important crossings are bridged.

MR. ITTOOP ITTEECHAN (*Kunnatnad*): എന്റെ ചോദ്യത്തിനു മറുപടിയായി എത്രയും അത്യാവശ്യമുള്ള മറ്റു പാലങ്ങൾ തീർത്തശേഷമേ ഈ പാലത്തെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കയൊള്ളു എന്നാണു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ഈ പാലം അത്യാവശ്യമുള്ളതാണെന്നു് ഗവണ്മെന്റു വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ലേ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായത്തിൽ അങ്ങിനെയാണു് തോന്നിയിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ഇതിനെക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ അത്യാവശ്യമായ വേലകൾ തീർക്കാനുണ്ടു്. അതിനുശേഷമേ ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കാൻ പാടൊള്ളു എന്നാണു് ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

MR. ITTOOP ITTEECHAN (*Kunnatnad*): ഇതും ഗതാഗതത്തിനു അത്യാവശ്യമായ ഒരു പാലമല്ലേ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): പാലങ്ങൾ എല്ലാം തന്നെ ഗതാഗതത്തിനുള്ളതാണല്ലോ.

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